UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/160
22 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/160. Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[3] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[4]

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation, proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[5]

Welcoming the designation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998, of the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[4] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[5] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Considering that tolerance of cultural, ethnic and religious diversities is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value which deserves recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced also that in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism, tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fostering stable friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

3. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

4. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights, to recognize and respect cultural diversity;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/161
23 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/161. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] article 26 of which states that "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms", and the provisions of other international human rights instruments, such as those of article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[3] article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[4] article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[5] article 10 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[6] and paragraphs 78 to 82 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[4] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[5] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[6] Resolution 39/46, annex.

adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[7] which reflect the aims of the aforementioned article,

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Towards a culture of peace", and the implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Believing that the World Public Information Campaign is a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations aimed at the further promotion and protection of human rights, and recalling the importance attached by the World Conference on Human Rights to human rights education and information,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive, lifelong process by which people at all levels of development and in all societies learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect,

Recognizing that human rights education and information are essential to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that carefully designed training, dissemination and information programmes can have a catalytic effect on national, regional and international initiatives to promote and protect human rights and prevent human rights violations,

Convinced that human rights education and information contribute to a holistic concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society such as children, young persons, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, the rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and disabled persons,

Taking into account the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme,

Recognizing the invaluable and creative role that non-governmental and community-based organizations can play in disseminating public information and engaging in human rights education, especially at the grass-roots level and in remote and rural communities,

Aware of the potential supportive role of the private sector in implementing at all levels of society the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004,[8] and the World

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[7] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[8] A/51/506/Add.1, appendix.

Public Information Campaign, through creative initiatives and financial support for governmental and non-governmental activities,

Convinced that the effectiveness of existing human rights education and public information activities would be enhanced by better coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling that it is within the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the increased efforts undertaken so far by the Office of the High Commissioner to disseminate human rights information through its web site[9] and its publications and external relations programmes,

Welcoming the initiative of the Office of the High Commissioner to develop further the project entitled "Assisting Communities Together", launched in 1998, supported by voluntary funds and designed to provide small grants to grass-roots and local organizations carrying out practical human rights activities,

Recalling that, according to the Plan of Action, in 2000 a mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade shall be undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with all other principal actors in the Decade,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights,[10] including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004,[8] and to develop public information activities in the field of human rights, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Urges* all Governments to contribute further to the implementation of the Plan of Action, in particular by establishing, in accordance with national conditions, broadly representative national committees for human rights education responsible for the development of comprehensive, effective and sustainable national plans of action for human rights education and information, taking into consideration the guidelines for national plans of action for human rights education developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[11] within the framework of the Decade;

4. *Urges* Governments to encourage, support and involve national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in the implementation of their national plans of action;

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[9] www.unhchr.ch.

[10] A/54/399 and Add.1.

[11] A/52/469/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

5. *Encourages* Governments to consider, within the national plans of action mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, the establishment of public access human rights resource and training centres capable of engaging in research, the gender-sensitive training of trainers, the preparation, collection, translation and dissemination of human rights education and training materials, the organization of courses, conferences, workshops and public information campaigns and assistance in the implementation of internationally sponsored technical cooperation projects for human rights education and public information;

6. *Encourages* States, where such national public access human rights resource and training centres already exist, to strengthen their capacity to support human rights education and public information programmes at the international, national, regional and local levels;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, in accordance with national conditions, to accord priority to the dissemination, in the relevant national and local languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other human rights instruments, human rights materials and training manuals, as well as reports of States parties under international human rights treaties, and to provide information and education in those languages on the practical ways in which national and international institutions and procedures may be utilized to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support further, through voluntary contributions, the education and public information efforts undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner within the framework of the Plan of Action;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to coordinate and harmonize human rights education and information strategies within the United Nations system, including the implementation of the Plan of Action, and to ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the use, processing, management and distribution of human rights information and educational materials, including through electronic means;

10. *Encourages* Governments to contribute to the further development of the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner,[9] in particular with respect to the dissemination of human rights education materials and tools, and to continue and expand the publications and external relations programmes of the Office;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support national capacities for human rights education and information through its technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights, including the organization of training courses and the development of targeted training materials for professional audiences, as well as the dissemination of human rights information materials as a component of technical cooperation projects;

12. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to utilize United Nations information centres for the timely dissemination, within their designated areas of activity, of basic information, reference and audio-visual materials on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the reports of States parties under international human rights instruments and, to this end, to ensure that the information centres are supplied with adequate quantities of those materials;

13. *Stresses* the need for close collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Department of Public Information in the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign, and the need to harmonize their activities with those of other international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with regard to

its project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" and the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and relevant United Nations programmes and funds to contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign and to cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies, when examining reports of States parties, to place emphasis on obligations of States parties in the area of human rights education and information and to reflect this emphasis in their concluding observations;

16. *Calls upon* international, national and regional non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, in particular those concerned with women, labour, development, food, housing, education, health care and the environment, as well as all other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations and the media, to undertake specific activities of formal, non-formal and informal education, including cultural events, alone and in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, in implementing the Plan of Action;

17. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade to be undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner in 2000, by providing appropriate information on steps taken in this regard;

18. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue implementation of the "Assisting Communities Together" project and to consider other appropriate ways and means to support human rights education activities, including those undertaken by non-governmental organizations;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the High Commissioner, to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights education and public information, and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session the mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade for consideration under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/162
23 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/162. Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, and its subsequent resolutions thereon,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural heritage of society as a whole in the States in which such persons live,

Concerned by the frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts concerning minorities in many countries and their often tragic consequences, and concerned also that persons belonging to minorities are particularly vulnerable to displacement through, *inter alia*, population transfers, refugee flows and forced relocation,

Acknowledging that the United Nations has an increasingly important role to play regarding the protection of minorities by, *inter alia*, taking due account of and giving effect to the Declaration,

Noting that the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights[1] of the Commission on Human Rights held its fourth and fifth sessions from 25 to 29 May 1998[2] and 25 to 31 May 1999,[3] respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law, in accordance with the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;

3. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration, including through the facilitation of their participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development of their country;

4. *Also urges* States to take, as appropriate, all the necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures to promote and give effect to the Declaration;

5. *Recognizes* that respect for human rights and the promotion of understanding and tolerance by Governments as well as between and among minorities are central to the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

6. *Appeals* to States to make bilateral and multilateral efforts, as appropriate, in order to protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in their countries, in accordance with the Declaration;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including the prevention and resolution of disputes, to assist in existing or potential situations involving minorities;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote, within her mandate, the implementation of the Declaration and to continue to engage in a dialogue with Governments concerned for that purpose;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to improve the coordination and cooperation among United Nations programmes and agencies on activities related to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and to take the work of relevant regional organizations active in the field of human rights into account in her endeavours;

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[1] Formerly known as the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

[2] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/18.

[3] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/21.

[4] A/54/303.

10. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to resume inter-agency consultations with United Nations programmes and agencies on minority issues, and urges those programmes and agencies to contribute actively to this process;

11. *Encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

12. *Calls upon* the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of the Commission on Human Rights to implement further its mandate with the involvement of a wide range of participants;

13. *Invites* the High Commissioner to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the effective participation, including through training seminars, in the work of the Working Group on Minorities of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to minorities, in particular those from developing countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on good practices in the fields of education and the effective participation of minorities in decision-making processes;

15. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

A/RES/54/163

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UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/163
23 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/163. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[2] in particular article 6 of the Covenant, which, *inter alia,* states that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life and prohibits the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons below eighteen years of age, and article 10, which provides that all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person,

Bearing in mind also the relevant provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[3] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[4] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[5]

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

[3] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[4] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[5] Resolution 44/25, annex.

Recalling in particular article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, according to which every child deprived of liberty shall be treated in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age,

Mindful of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[6] in particular of the obligation of States to treat men and women equally in all stages of procedures in courts and tribunals,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Aware of the need for special vigilance with regard to the vulnerable situation of children and juveniles, as well as women and girls, in detention,

Recalling the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System[7] and the establishment of a coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice,

Emphasizing that the right to access to justice as contained in applicable international human rights instruments forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Mindful of the importance of establishing the rule of law and promoting human rights in the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice,

Recalling its resolution 52/124 of 12 December 1997, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/39 of 17 April 1998[8] and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/28 of 28 July 1999 on the administration of juvenile justice,[9]

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

2. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States to spare no effort in providing for effective legislative mechanisms and procedures, as well as adequate resources, to ensure the full implementation of those standards;

3. *Invites* Governments to provide training, including gender-sensitive training, in human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration and police officers, and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

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[6] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[7] Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30, annex.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[9] E/1999/INF/2/Add.2. For the final text, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 1* (E/1999/99).

4. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system;

5. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

6. *Invites* the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies, including special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups, to continue to give special attention to questions relating to the effective promotion of human rights in the administration of justice and to provide, where appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for measures to provide advisory services and technical assistance;

8. *Takes note* of the increased attention paid to the issue of juvenile justice by the High Commissioner, and encourages further activities, within her mandate, in this regard;

9. *Encourages* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and United Nations institutes in the areas of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice, and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including national professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in this field, to continue to develop their activities in promoting human rights in the administration of justice;

10. *Calls upon* the coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice to increase cooperation among the partners involved, to share information and pool their capacities and interests in order to increase the effectiveness of programme implementation;

11. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to coordinate closely their activities relating to the administration of justice;

12. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law and human rights in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, including assistance provided through United Nations field presences;

13. *Decides* to consider the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/164
24 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/164. Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[2] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[3]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[4]

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[5] in which the Conference reaffirmed that terrorism is indeed aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy,

Recalling further its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993, 49/185 of 23 December 1994, 50/186 of 22 December 1995 and 52/133 of 12 December 1997,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[3] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[4] See resolution 50/6.

[5] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Recalling in particular its resolution 52/133, in which it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, and taking note, in particular, of resolution 1999/27 of 26 April 1999,[6] as well as the relevant resolutions of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,[7]

Alarmed that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the essential and most basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the right of people to live in freedom from fear,

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, the taking of hostages and robbery,

Emphasizing the importance of Member States taking appropriate steps to deny safe haven to those who plan, finance or commit terrorist acts, by ensuring their apprehension and prosecution or extradition,

Mindful of the need to protect the human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant human rights principles and instruments, in particular the right to life,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with the relevant provisions of international law including international human rights standards,

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[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[7] Formerly known as the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the victims of terrorism;

2. *Condemns* the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security;

3. *Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation* of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards, to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed;

5. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation at the regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

6. *Condemns* the incitement of ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

7. *Commends* those Governments that have communicated their views on the implications of terrorism in response to the note verbale by the Secretary-General dated 16 August 1999;

8. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General,[8] and requests him to continue to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to incorporating them in his report;

9. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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[8] A/54/439.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/165
24 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/165. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[3] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[3]

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more susceptible to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and taking the opportunities presented by globalization,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of cultures, identities and human rights and that, in that regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that while globalization, by its impact on, *inter alia*, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is, first and foremost, the responsibility of the State;

2. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Takes note* of the request by the Commission on Human Rights to the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights[4] to undertake a study, based on the reports of the treaty bodies, special rapporteurs, independent experts and working groups of the Commission, on the issue of globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights, for the consideration of the Commission at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the different views of Member States, to submit a comprehensive report on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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[4] Formerly known as the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/166
24 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)*]

54/166. Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[2] the International Conference on Population and Development,[3] the World Summit for Social Development[4] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[5]

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/44 of 27 April 1999 on the human rights of migrants,[6] and of its decision to appoint a special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants,

Recalling its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

Bearing in mind the situation of vulnerability in which migrants frequently find themselves, owing, *inter alia*, to their absence from their State of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles for the return to their States of origin of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation,

Deeply concerned at the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations on strengthening the promotion, protection and implementation of the human rights of migrants of the working group of intergovernmental experts on the human rights of migrants[7] established by the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting the efforts made by States to penalize the international trafficking of migrants and to protect the victims of this illegal activity,

Taking note of the decisions of the relevant international juridical bodies on questions relating to migrants, particularly advisory opinion OC-16/99, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 1 October 1999, regarding the right to information about consular assistance within the framework of due process guarantees,

1. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,[8] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[9] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[10] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[11] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against

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[6] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[7] E/CN.4/1999/80, paras. 102-124.

[8] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[9] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[10] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[11] Resolution 45/158, annex.

Women,[12] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[13] and other applicable international human rights instruments;

2. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia with regard to access to employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

3. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory policies and practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

4. *Reiterates* the need for all States to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to provide humane treatment, particularly with regard to assistance and protection, including those under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[14] regarding the right to receive consular assistance from the country of origin;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to examine ways and means to overcome the obstacles existing to the full and effective protection of the human rights of this vulnerable group, including obstacles and difficulties for the return of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation, with the following functions:

(*a*) To request and receive information from all relevant sources, including migrants themselves, on violations of the human rights of migrants and their families;

(*b*) To formulate appropriate recommendations to prevent and remedy violations of the human rights of migrants, wherever they may occur;

(*c*) To promote the effective application of relevant international norms and standards on the issue;

(*d*) To recommend actions and measures applicable at the national, regional and international levels to eliminate violations of the human rights of migrants;

(*e*) To take into account a gender perspective when requesting and analysing information, as well as to give special attention to the occurrence of multiple discrimination and violence against migrant women;

6. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to his/her urgent appeals;

7. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat international trafficking of migrants, which should take into account, in particular, trafficking that endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of

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[12] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[13] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

debt bondage, sexual or labour exploitation, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

83rd plenary meeting
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